



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month. Its at 6:30PM at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2017
ham public service
schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: Navassa Island Dxpediton 2015 DVD

Date: February 14, 2017

Time: Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh
New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

[Click here for more information.](#)

RARS President's Message

The groundhog(s) have come and gone and there were some discrepancies in the outcomes and predictions. We are either going to have nice weather or rough weather. My vote goes to the warm side.

Hamfest season is also upon us again. Winston-Salem and Richmond are in the books. Charlotte is coming up next month. And don't forget RARSfest on April 15th. There are still several prime positions open on the volunteer list for RARSfest. Please consider giving a little bit of your time and talents to

[Continued on page 3](#)

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Dennis Keith
NC4DK
919-608-1301
NC4DK@yahoo.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Lewis
N4TL
919-870-9342
N4TL2@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

Bob Chapman
NC1X
919-870-6385
NC1X@nc.rr.com

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919-859-0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: Second Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew. 73, Chuck, K4HF

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.64-, 444.525+ (82.5) and

145.13- (82.5), (82.5 is the tone freq)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <http://www.rars.org/nets.php>

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

President's Message continued

make this event benefitting your club a great success as it has been in the past years.

RARSfest is also a great time to clean out the shack and turn some of that unused equipment into cash at the RARS table. RARS will sell your items and retain only a small percentage (with a cap) for the service. This way you can enjoy shopping at the many vendors with money you didn't realize you had.

For the testers, don't forget the NC QSO Party on February 26th. Also you can add in the SC QSO Party on February 25th to make it a Carolina weekend. Even if you're not particularly interested in contesting, this is a great opportunity to get some operating experience as well as to help your club again. RARS is the sponsor of the NC QSO Party.

73,

Dennis

NC4DK

RARS Birthdays

Sue	W2G HK	02/02
LOS	AF0AA	02/03
Selene	KG4RMT	02/03
Grady	KJ4RZU	02/05
Chris	KM4RJQ	02/06
Larry	N4LEW	02/07
Bill	KN4IX	02/08
Tom	N4TL	02/13
Dennis	WZ0Q	02/13
John	KM4TXU	02/15
Roy	KT4EM	02/15
Quentin	KM4MLZ	02/15
Dave	KK4ELT	02/16
Dick	WW4NC	02/16
Jim	W2PAU	02/16
Chuck	KM4WAS	02/17
Don	NJ2E	02/18
Rick	W4BFG	02/18
Howard	N4KYW	02/19
Jim	WH6JQ	02/20
Roger	K4KDX	02/20
Joe	N1LVN	02/21
Charlie	WA3UTC	02/24
John	W1JVN	02/25
Joe	W4TTO	02/25
Bob	WX4MMM	02/26
Carl	W8WZ	02/26
Kathleen	KM4CSF	02/28
Mary	KG4OQA	02/28

Future Hamfests

A full list of Hamfests can be found at the [ARRL website](http://www.arrl.org).

03/10-11/2017 | [Charlotte Hamfest](http://www.charlottehamfest.org)

Location: Concord, NC

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

04/15/2017 | [Roanoke Division Convention \(Raleigh Hamfest\)](http://rars.org/rarsfest)

Location: Raleigh, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://rars.org/rarsfest>

04/28/2017 | [2017 SVHFS Conference](http://svhfs.org)

Location: Charlotte, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Southeastern VHF Society

Website: <http://svhfs.org>

New Members

Dick Gray	KM4YLH
Bob Thorne	AK4TT
Kevin Estep	KN4AAG
Lewis Spurlin, Jr.	N4NCT

January 10 RARS Meeting

The January presentation was about the “Arduino CW Trainer and writing for QST”, given by Tom N4TL. Tom wrote an article about the Arduino CW Trainer that was published in the September 2016 issue of QST on page 39. The trainer sends a few characters of code and the student sends them back. No paper is used. The student learns how to receive and send the code by the sound of the characters.

Information about writing for the ARRL is given at their website www.arrl.org. At that website click on QST then on QST Author guide. Then click on QST Author guide near the center of the page, not on the one to the left. The Author guide is seventeen pages of information by Steve Ford, WB8IMY.

For information on the Arduino CW Trainer you can read the QST article. For updated information go to this website, www.qsl.net/n4tl. Tom updated the sketch (program) that runs the trainer. He also has more information on how to build the trainer.

In November of 2016 Michael Hughes, KC1DMR updated the sketch so that a keyboard is not needed. A Link to his sketch is in the how to build document at www.qsl.net/n4tl.

Tom also showed a few slides for a new Heathkit clock he built. Tom ordered the clock at this website www.heathkit.com. There are two new kits on the site. One is the clock and one is a TRF AM radio and a few other items. Tom ordered the clock on October 21, 2016. It was shipped on December 12. Tom put the kit together on January 9, 2017. It took about five hours to complete. It requires soldering on two circuit boards and mechanical assembly.



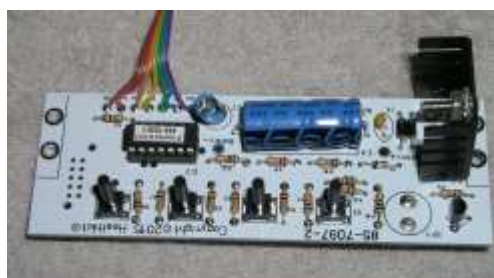
Arduino CW Trainer



Heathkit Clock



Heathkit Clock Display Board



Heathkit Clock Control Board

December 13 RARS meeting door prize winners



Door prizes were won by Carl W8WZ (2016 Handbook),
Joanne AA3N (mobile antenna) and Bob NC1X, (mobile antenna).

Creekside's annual Science Night!
January 26th from 6-8 PM at Creekside Elementary, Durham



Wes Quinn K4WES and Tom Lewis N4TL participated in Creekside Elementary annual Science Night. We had a table with an ICOM IC-7300, a code trainer and a robot mouse that follows a black line on white paper. The code trainer also does Morse code decoding and many of the students found that fun.

The New Hams meeting

We had 18 hams in attendance, 8 new hams.

K3TD, Tad, started out the meeting with an in depth history and procedural description of the Vanity Call sign system, describing the history of the call signs, the 14 US call districts, pitfalls and typical mistakes, hams who can help, web pages for research, and helpful information about what call signs to choose for what reasons. Considering the brevity of the presentation it was tremendously useful.

There was an intense and informative question and answer session and many more hints from experienced hams.

His handout is reproduced here on the web: <http://torborg.com/a/vanitycalls.html>

Tad was followed by KA2DEW, Tadd, who did a presentation on the regional repeaters including describing what tower sites existed and what networks of repeaters are available. Tadd showed a hand drawn map of the area (pictured here behind K3TD earlier in the meeting) and he annotated the map with tower sites during the presentation.

Most of the presentation was Q&A as there were many interesting observations and questions.

Tadd gave out a handout as well which is reproduced here: <http://torborg.com/a/repeaterlist.html>

After the two presentations we put together a couple of UHF stations based on surplus commercial Kenwood TK-862G radios recently purchased by Dick KM4YLH (new call pending) and by Tadd, KA2DEW. With the help of a laptop we were able to program both radios with local frequencies.

Here is a list of attendees to the new hams meeting, Name Call and time as a ham.

Ray KM4WFM 1yr	Alan AB4OZ 48yrs
Tara Kirby KM4ZSZ 1month	Dennis WZ0Q 26yrs
Todd Thomas KM4ZTO 1month	John KG4AKV 18yrs
Bob Thorn KM4YLG 2months	Tadd KA2DEW 36yrs
Dick Gray KM4YLH 2months	Dennis NC4DK 12yrs
Robert Walker KM4ZKY 2months	Carl W8WZ 23yrs
Joe Tyson KM4WRQ <6months	Bob NC1X 9yrs
Mike Helms KM4ZXH 2wks	Tom K2UCU 60yrs
	Ken KI4OTO 55yrs
Fin NC4FG 2yrs	Tad K3TD

Continued on the next page

The New Hams meeting Continued



K3TD, Tad, started out the meeting with an in depth history and procedural description of the Vanity Call sign system,

Everyone listening to Tad.



KA2DEW, Tadd
explaining something

The New Hams meeting Continued

New HAM / Elmer meeting,

6:00 p.m. before the member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARs meeting. We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help to hams in their first year of operation.

Tadd / KA2DEW

tadd@mac.com

Raleigh NC FM05pv



Future RARS Presentations

2/14/2017	Navassa Island Dxpediton 2015	DVD
3/14/2017	Awards, RARS Birthday Party (2/12/69) & RARSfest Update	Ian Hewitt, N0IAN RARSfest chair
4/11/2017	Dxpediton to St. Paul Island August 19 - 29, 2016	Will Roberts, AA4NC

45th Annual RARSfest

ARRL Roanoke Division Convention

April 15, 2017 at NC State Fairgrounds

Online registration is now open for the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society annual RARSfest and 2017 ARRL Roanoke Division Convention. We are still holding prices as they have been for several years and again this year you can save a few dollars on tickets and tables by taking advantage of bargain prices with early registration by April 8th. Early pricing is \$8.00 for tickets and \$18.00 for tables. Tickets price at the door will be \$10.00 and tables at the door will be \$20 while they are available. To order online or see more information about tickets and tables visit <http://rars.org/rarsfest/>

RARSfest will again be located in the 100,000 sq. ft. Jim Graham Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd. from 8:00 A.M till 3:00 P.M on April 15th (Easter Saturday). Attendance has been steadily increasing since we moved back to this venue and we have currently been running between 1700 and 2000 in ticket sales making RARSfest one of the largest hamfests in the state. RARSfest attendance in 2016 was the highest in recent years, as was the number of flea market tables and the number of commercial dealer booths.

RARSfest is an all indoor event with free parking, about 50 booths for commercial dealers, a huge flea market, meetings and forums, door prizes, a restaurant, walk-in License Exams, hands-on construction projects, QSL checking, and more. Some of the presenters and speakers include ARRL local, and state officials as well as a special representative from ARRL HQ staff. We are also expecting more youths and Scouts this year and expect to expanded our support in those areas.

Dealer and flea market setup will be after noon on Friday, and on Saturday morning from 6-8 AM. As always, there will be a welcome reception for vendors and dealers on Friday evening from 7-8 PM in the Hamfest building.

Please keep an eye on the RARSfest website for updated information as it becomes available at <http://rars.org/rarsfest>

RARS patches

RARS patches are now available at the amazing low price of \$4 each! That's right, only four dollars – and tax free too! Yes, I couldn't believe it either. A limited number will be available at the sign-in table at the February meeting. Please, no pushing or shoving – remember that you are RARS members so conduct yourselves accordingly. Thank you.

73 Raymond Lefrançois NC400; Glutton free - Pretty much



North Carolina QSO Party February 26, 2017 (10am to 8pm EST)

by Marty Young W4MY

There are a lot of new and exciting things to report about the NC QSO Party this year. A lot has been happening behind the scenes and it's getting to be about time get things rolling. Here we go!

The NC QSO Party is an on-air operating event primarily on the HF bands. The objective is to have as many NC stations on the air make contact with everyone else in the world on phone, CW, or digital modes who will be seeking to hear and work folks in North Carolina. During the specified operating day and time, stations exchange location information and (optionally) a signal report. Everyone keeps score of their operating results and submits their log vying for neat awards and fabulous prizes! All the information you need is located on the website at www.ncqsoparty.org. Its a laid back "contest" with many interesting aspects to work some neat stations and bonuses.

Speaking of fun opportunities, the bonus counties this year are Anson and Graham. Look for a special treat, NC4QP (Hallmark NCQP bonus station manned by Marc, W4MPS) will be in Anson. That's right, work Marc for a twofer for 100 bonus points! Rounding out the bonus stations will be the USS North Carolina battleship museum, NI4BK, and W4DW manned by yours truly, Andy, AA9P, and Dwayne, N4MIO in Harnett. David, W4JL, will be W4DW Digital bonus from Cleveland county. Kent, K9EZ, is heading up the W1VOA bonus operation at the VOA Site C in Pitt. You get extra points above normal for working one of these stations. Thanks to everyone helping with these bonus stations, they truly add a great deal to our event.

New this year are the club multi operations. Club operations that enter that category are not limited by one rig any more. Use as many as you want to give everyone a chance at operating, newbie and seasoned operator alike. This should shake things up a little and have these entrants working on a new strategy. Will we see some new blood in the coveted top club awards this year?

There was a lot of confusion last year on the use of high power. Many were reclassified last year by the scoring sub-committee due to incorrect submissions. Be sure to pick the correct category when submitting your log and read the rules carefully to make sure you're operating high power appropriately. We didn't disqualify anyone last year because of this, but it was close. Wouldn't want for that to happen this year.

Continued on the next page

Continued from the previous page

Synergy is here in earnest. South Carolina is doing their QSO Party one day prior to ours. We have combined the "Worked Most Counties" awards for most NC AND SC counties. You must submit a log to BOTH NC and SC to be eligible for this award. The in-states (either NC or SC) award winner gets a \$75 gift certificate to King's BBQ in Kingston, NC, and the out of staters get Maurice's BBQ from the south state. We won't get into the discussion who's got the best BBQ! Hi!

Expeditioners, get your activation plans on the site, its really easy now to post your activation news. We really appreciate you guys going out and activating the lesser populated counties. Let's hope the weather is agreeable. You don't have to be an expedition station in order to post your plans. Just go to the main website (ncqsoparty.org) and click on the "County Activity" tab at the top. There is a link to the RSVP page and just fill out the simple web form and hit submit! That's all there is to it!

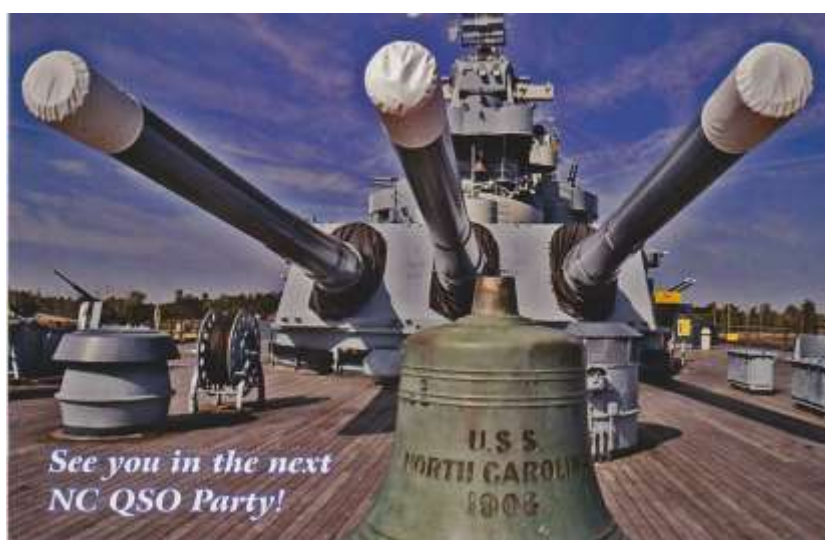
Speaking of good weather, our mobile stations will be the beneficiaries of that. I've already learned that a number of new (to NCQP) mobile stations will be heard this year. The NC/SC synergy is the cause of that.

So...get on the air both days! Work as many SC stations you can on Saturday to wring out the bugs for our event Sunday! Call CQ as much as you can, everyone will be listening and looking for NC stations. If you are new to this QSO Party stuff, a good option is to visit the N4RAL RARS club activation hosted by Joe, WA4GIR and Liz, KO4CK, White. Contact them directly for more info, or just ask me or another NCQSP Party Committee member.

Hope to see you on the air!

73 Marty / W4MY
Chairman, NCQP

<http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty>





1. Is this the back or the front?
2. I wonder what's on channel two?
3. I think I left something out.
4. Lousy picture - but the sound is good.
5. Maybe the chair is too far away.
6. What is this wire for?
7. Ooo, this wire tingles.

Pick the correct answer and win next month's eXciter free.
Send your answers to the IBM tabulator on the cloud.

Humor courtesy of Raymond Lefrançois NC400

Tar Heel Scanner/SWL SIG

The Tar Heel Scanner/SWL SIG group met on January 16th at Red Hot and Blue restaurant on Falls of Neuse Road in Raleigh. Twelve people attended.

Doug Hall, K4DSP from JPS Communications gave a very interesting presentation about history of the company and had some of the early JPS prototypes as well as all the ham radio related products that they produced. His talk included information on how JPS got into the scanning and surveillance market, and how it migrated into (and out of) the ham market, and where the company ended up.

George McCrary, K8QM, from JPS was also at the meeting. George was JPS's first Test Technician and ultimately became the IT manager. George is an avid DXer and is on the DXCC Honor Roll and shared several interesting stories about the JPS products.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. We meet at 6:30 for dinner and the meeting begins at 7:30 and ends at 9:00. For more information and announcements about the upcoming meetings, see the Tar Heel Scanner / SWL SIG Yahoo group (<https://groups.yahoo.com/groups/tarheelscanner>).

73, Kelly AE4FG



Photo by Tom Lewis, N4TL

Second row left to right:

Mike Stroupe K4DRT, Dennis Keith NC4DK, Tom McKee K4ZAD, Kelly Mills AE4FG,
Doug Hall K4DSP, Bob Kulow WA2UEH, George McCrary K8QM, John Garrett N4YFU

Front row left to right:

John Black KB5AG, Roger Gaskins KD4JJQ, Paul Holzworth KD4BFN, Bruce Sherman KJ4PAC

A Few Useful Ham Websites.

Want to put up an Antenna over a tree?

This video shows how to do it. First drop a fishing line then pull up the wire antenna with the fishing line. <http://www.theonlinefisherman.com/videos/using-any-drone-to-drop-a-fishing-line>

Morse code program

Morse code program using the Koch method and information on learning the code.

<http://www.g4fon.net/>

ID Digital Signals Website

This website has the sounds and water fall images for many digital signals heard on the radio.

http://www.sigidwiki.com/wiki/Signal_Identification_Guide

One level up from that webpage is also interesting with a lot of information.

http://www.sigidwiki.com/wiki/Signal_Identification_Guide

Thanks to Bill Marx W2CQ for posting this information to the SFDXA reflector.

From the ARRL's Contest Update for January 25, 2017. Used with permission.

When good coax goes bad, it's often due to water ingress. [DX Engineering has published a technical tip](#) showing how to use a combination of rubber splicing tape and vinyl tape to make weatherproof coax connectors.

The Flexradio folks have shared an [application note regarding grounding in the shack](#). Single point grounding and the differences between RF and electrical grounding are among some of the topics discussed.

South East VHF Society Convention

The SVHF Society will hold our convention in Charlotte, NC this year on April 28 and 29 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Charlotte Airport, 2600 Yorkmont Road, Charlotte, NC 28201. We have arranged rooms at \$95; you can call 800-222-TREE and ask for this rate under the name "South East VHF Society". Early registration guest room rate of \$89 is offered for reservations made by January 31, 2017, so if you plan to attend, please call now to reserve your room at this lower rate before the end of January. We will have the registration information on the web site soon (<http://svhfs.org>) so watch for the sign up details. The conference fee for pre-registration is \$30, Friday's Luncheon is \$15, and the Saturday's banquet is \$40. I hope to see many of you there, Gary Greene, W2ZV, conference committee member.

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 20 , 2016

The meeting was canceled

RARS Classified

Belden 8214 rg8 50 foot rolls

Posted January 22nd, 2017 by: AD4RC

Contact: ferdjr@bellsouth.net

I have 3 new rolls of Belden 8214. I have not measured the length rolled out but by some calculations come up with 50 feet per roll.

Asking \$50 per roll.

919 779 2626

The January - February 2017 Classic Exchange "CX"

CX is a no-pressure on air contest celebrating the older commercial and homebrew equipment that was the pride and joy of ham shacks decades ago.

The objective of CX is to encourage restoration, operation and enjoyment of this older Classic ham gear.

However, you need not operate a Classic rig to participate in CX. You may use any rig in the CX although new gear is at a distinct scoring disadvantage. You can still work the "great ones" with modern equipment and enjoy the sounds of yesteryear.

CW CX is on Sunday January 29th **and** Tuesday January 31st.

AM-SSB-FM CX is on Sunday February 17th **and** Tuesday February 19th.

Full details are on the CX website www.classicexchange.org

Tune in and enjoy the "good old days."

Mac WQ8U Hillsborough, NC

MINUTES
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
General Membership Meeting
January 10, 2016

The monthly membership meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society met at the Ridge Road Baptist Church in Raleigh. The meeting was called to order by President Dennis, NC4DK, at 7:33 p.m.

There were 24 members present, which did **not** constitute a quorum.

There being no quorum present, approval of the minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting was deferred until the next meeting.

Vice President: Tom N4TL announced that next month's program will be Ham Radio and small drones, by Tiia, KM4CMQ.

Treasurer: Greg, KE4PAX, reported (by e-mail) we have 347 members this month. Anyone desiring additional treasury information may contact Greg for details.

Secretary: Bob NC1X reported that Larry Young K4LXV is at home and his medical treatment continues.

Continuing Announcements:

The RARS Dinner takes place monthly on the first Tuesday (next: February 7) at 6:30 p.m., at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Ave.

The RARS Board meeting takes place monthly on the third Tuesday (next: January 17) at 7:00 p.m. in a conference room here at the Church. Members are invited to attend.

An After-meeting gathering takes place after each Membership meeting, at Applebee's, Hillsborough and Gorman Streets.

A New Ham / Elmer's meeting with new hams and anyone interested takes place before each membership meeting, at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Today's activity included presentations on vanity call signs by Tad, K3TD, and local area repeaters.

Board & Committee Reports:

Public Service (John AI4RT): No report. The PS season usually begins in March/April.

Continued on the next page

Education Director: No report.

Field Day (Marty W4MY): No report. NC4DK reminds everyone that the dates are June 24 & 25 at the Police Lodge.

FM Repeater (Karl W4CHX): No report.

RARSfest (Ian, N0IAN): Bob NC1X described minor changes to the RARSfest page on the RARS website and changes to the volunteer signup process for admissions volunteers.

N.C. QSO Party (Marty W4MY): Tom N4TL announced the QSO party is Saturday, February 25 (SC) and Sunday, February 26 (NC).

At Large Directors:

Marty W4MY: No report

Joanne AA3N: No Report

Raymond NC4OO: No Report

Awards Committee (Chuck, K4HF): Awards are given in March. Please notify Chuck if you know someone who should receive an award.

Guests: Ted Rappaport, N9NB; John Brier, KG4AKV.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were won by Joanne AA3N (mobile antenna), Carl W8WZ (2016 Handbook), and Bob NC1X, (mobile antenna).

Program: Dennis NC4DK introduced Tom Lewis N4TL who presented a program on his Arduino CW Trainer and writing for QST, and on the new Heathkit resurrection.

The meeting was adjourned by President Dennis at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert E Chapman, NC1X
RARS Secretary

Reminder, Novice Rig Roundup

The dates are 0000 UTC on FEB 18 through 2359 UTC on FEB 26, 2017
Nine 9 full days (UTC.)

<http://www.novicerigroundup.com/>

Current Public Service Opportunities

The RARS website has an up-to-date list of Public Service events and a form that can be filled out to volunteer. <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

The Ham Public Service Net. We will use the following repeaters in the Carolina 440 Link System:

441.725(+)(100) – Raleigh, NC Hub
443.450 (+)(100) – Cane Mt., Snow Camp, NC
444.325 (+)(100) – Holly Springs, NC
444.375 (+)(100) - Henderson, NC
444.550 (+)(100) – Coats, NC
444.775 (+)(100 – Cary, NC
444.875 (+)(100) – Wendell, NC
145.330 (-)(100) – Goldsboro, NC
442.250 (+)(107.2) - McCain/Southern Pines, NC
444.200 (+)(179.9) - Johnsonville, NC
444.025 (+)(100) - Benson, NC
442.425 (+)(100) - Buxton, NC

(The net is also accessible through IRLP Reflector 9210)

The Ham Public Service Yahoo Group link is: [Ham Public Service North Carolina](#)

Choose the event(s) for which you would like to volunteer and complete the sign-up form at the RARS website .. note... one form for EACH event that you are volunteering. We are glad you are back.

*** TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS ON THE NEXT PAGE FILL OUT THE FORM AT <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>**

2017 EASTERN REGION ODYSSEY OF THE MIND TOURNAMENT

March 4, 2017 - Saturday - Raleigh, NC

This is an all day event, starting at 7 AM and ending shortly after the last team competes in the late afternoon. ~18 hams are needed to staff this tournament.

* Location: Wake Technical College Campus, 9101 Fayetteville Rd, Raleigh, NC 27603

* Ham Coordinator: Brian Young (KA9QJT)

* Website: [Odyssey of the Mind](#)

2017 Spring Fling

April 1, 2017 - Saturday - Cary, NC

This is a 25, 50 and 100 mile bike event that requires SAGS, as well as Hams assigned to Rest Stops. This is the first fund raising event of the season sponsored by TeamCBC and for the benefit of the National MS Society.

* Location: Inside-Out Sports, 2002 Gridale Ln., Cary, NC 27513

* Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)

* Website: [TeamCBC](#)

2017 WALK MS

April 8, 2017 - Saturday - Raleigh, NC

This is a walking event, one or three miles around PNC Arena. Sponsored by the MS Society. Shadows and Rest Stop Hams are typically needed at 7:30 AM, with the even wrapping up around noon.

* Location: PNC Arena, 1400 Edwards Mill Rd., Raleigh, NC 27607

* Ham Coordinator: Brian Young (KA9QJT)

* Website: [MS Walk](#)

2017 RARSfest

April 15, 2017 - Saturday - Raleigh, NC

* To volunteer for any of these events, fill out the form at <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

Write Now! 2017

Have you ever thought about writing a how-to article for magazines like CQ Amateur Radio or ARRL's QST, but you did not know how to start writing or you felt your English was not good enough or you did not know how to pitch your ideas to a publication's editor? Well, Raleigh has a club for writers, editors and photographers called the Triangle Association of Freelancers (TAF). Each spring, TAF hosts a regional conference in Raleigh at the NCSU McKimmon Center. This conference is called "Write Now!" and it is designed for both experienced writers and newcomers.

This year's conference is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th (8AM to 5PM) and it offers two 1-day tracks: one track for those interested in fiction writing and another track for those interested in magazine article writing. The speakers are all successful professionals drawing on decades of experience in the various medias and markets of the publishing business. This conference is also an excellent place to network and find resources for helping you start a blog, develop a web site, or write your memoirs. The goal of the conference is to stop procrastinating and dreaming... "Write Now!"

For more information or to register, visit www.tafnc.com/WriteNow.html. There are discounts for senior citizens, retired or active duty military personnel, and students (with ID).

73, Charles, KM4AMT

